

October 3, 2005

«AddressBlock»

«GreetingLine»

Our entire state has been severely affected by this hurricane season. While we work across the state to rebuild our cities, and with that, our economies, we must continue to look forward to both the opportunities and obstacles that will arise.

I am asking you to participate on a post-hurricane elections task force. We all know that the centerpiece of any democracy is free and fair elections. We have all worked together in the past to make sure that Louisiana's elections system is above reproach. As I've said in the past, people may not like who won the election, or how the campaign was conducted, but they have no doubt that when they cast their vote, it was counted and counted correctly. Now we must work harder than ever to continue to preserve the integrity of our elections system.

We not only have the obvious challenge of reaching displaced voters for the upcoming municipal elections in New Orleans, but in other parishes throughout the southern part of our state for other upcoming elections. We do not know yet how long our citizens in any of the affected areas will be displaced.

While we want as much input from as many constituent groups as possible, we also are striving to make this a manageable working group that can brainstorm on the very real issues we face as well as potential problems, and find very real solutions to all.

Please have a representative, if you are not able to attend, at our first meeting, slated for Thursday, October 13, at 10:00 a.m. in the John J. Hainkel, Jr. Room in the State Capitol. Please contact Jennifer Marusak at 342-4479 if you need any additional information and to confirm your attendance.

Sincerely,

Al Ater

POST-HURRICANE ELECTIONS TASK FORCE INVITEES

Lieutenant Governor Mitch Landrieu

Attorney General Charles Foti

Sybil Holt
AFL-CIO

Jean Armstrong
League of Women Voters of Louisiana

Ernest Johnson
NAACP

Barry Erwin
Council for a Better Louisiana

Jim Brandt
Public Affairs Research Council of
Louisiana

Senator C.D. Jones
Chairman, Senate & Governmental Affairs

Representative Charles Lancaster
Chairman, House & Governmental Affairs

Dan Juneau
Louisiana Association of Business &
Industry

Mary Winters
Acting Chairman, Louisiana Democratic
Party

Roger Villere
Chairman, Republican Party of Louisiana

Mayor Ray Nagin

Councilman Oliver Thomas
Chairman, New Orleans City Council

Kimberly Williamson Butler
Orleans Clerk of Court

Louis Keller
Orleans Registrar of Voters

Linda M. Walker
President
New Orleans League of Women Voters

Gary Loftin
Clerk of Court Association

John Russell
Registrar of Voters Association

Dave Zimmerman
President
Common Cause Louisiana

Matthew Rovira
Executive Director
Governor's Office of Disability Affairs

Representative Jeff Arnold

Representative Austin Badon

Representative Peppi Bruneau

Representative Karen Carter

Representative Mickey Frith

Representative Rick Gallot

Representative Cheryl Gray

Representative Terrell Harris

Representative Alex Heaton

Representative Jalila Jefferson-Bullock

Representative Juan LaFonta

Representative Charmaine Marchand

Representative Arthur Morrell

Representative Loulan Pitre

Representative Cedric Richmond

Representative Jim Tucker

Senator Diana Bajoie

Senator Walter Boasso

Senator Ann Duplessis

Senator Nick Gautreaux

Senator Francis Heitmeier

Senator Ken Hollis

Senator Art Lentini

Senator Ed Murray

Senator Julie Quinn

Senator Tom Schedler

Senator Derrick Shepherd

Senator Gerald Theunissen

Senator Chris Ullo

Stephanie Butler

New Orleans Democratic Party Chair

John Musser

New Orleans Republican Party Chair

Godfrey White

Executive Director

Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs